THE SPANISH GENERAL'S DESIRE TO HAVE A LETTER DESTROYED.

SUSPICION CAST ON WEYLER.

MANY INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE MAINE

OUTHAGE AND THE SPANISH FAILURE TO SUBDUE CUBA-CAPTAIN SIGSBEE

Washington, April 14.-The testimony taken before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relasludes not only the testimony taken since the disaster to the Maine, but also much that was taken before, and running back for a year of

The statement which contains the greatest current interest is that made by Consul-General Lee on April 12. In this statement General Lee aid, however, that he had no information of the placing of any torpedoes before the Maine was destroyed, and none in regard to the purchase of them abroad by the Spanish authori-

"Had you any reason to suppose that the harbor was mined at all before the blowing up of the Maine?" asked Senator Frye.

. sir; I had no reason to suspect anything of the sort up to that time."

Weyler's letter to Santos Guzman had led him to believe that mines might have been placed there sition was strengthened by a telegram from On the whole, he thought the Weyler letter (the

The telegram to which he referred was addressed to Eva Canel, a noted Spanish woman and an admirer of Weyler, and to Guzman, and

General Lee said that this telegram had never before been published, and he found in it strong confirmatory evidence of the genuineness of the DOESN'T RELIEVE BLANCO GUILTY

I am satisfied the explosion was from the outside. I cabled the State Department a few days after the Board assembled that it was almost after the Board assembled that it was almost certain that the explosion was from the exterior. I have always had an idea about the Maine that, of course, it was not blown up by any private individual or by any private citizen, but it was blown up by some of the officers who had charge of the mines and electrical wires and torpedoes in the arsenal there who thoroughly understood their business, for it was done re-

markably well.

I do not think General Blanco, the present I do not think General of the island of Cubs, had anything to do with it. I do not think he had any knowledge of it. I saw him just shortly after the occurrence. I was sitting in my room at the hotel, and from the balcony of the hotel I could hear this. I heard the explosion and saw a great column of fire go up in the air. A few moments after ascertaining that

plosion and saw a great column of fire go up in the air. A few moments after ascertaining that it was the Maine I went right down to the palace and I asked for General Blanco. He came in directly by himself. He had just heard it and was crying; tears were coming out of his eyes. He seemed to regret it as much as anybody I saw in Havana. But I think it came from some of the subaltern officers who had from some of the subaltern officers who had been there under Weyler, and who were probably anti-Blanco, anyhow, and who had full knowledge of the business.

"HURRY UP THE ELECTRICAL CABLES." General Lee said he had seen a copy of a tele-

from Admiral Manterola, dated in Havana efore the explosion of the Maine, to the Spanish Whether that referred to wire for submarine

mines or torpedoes I do not know," he continued. soldiers "I tried to ascertain if any of the wire or elecm Spanish ships, and I could not find ou

General Lee said that this testimony in regard and go back to town, three men killed and ten to Menterola and also that with reference to the or twelve wounded. Weyler telegram had been furnished to the Court of Inquiry which investigated the Maine disaster, but had not been sent to Congress or published because of a request of his made to the State Department not to make them public, "as I was afraid the Spanish papers there would republish it and they would probably kill the man that gave it to me."

Continuing this testimony with regard to the night of the Maine explosion, General Lee said that ten minutes after the explosion he was at the Palace talking to General Blanco, and that the latter gave him an order for a boat to take him out into the harbor. Senator Morgan asked if, when he got to the water's edge, he saw any

"I did not notice that." said General Lee, "but I have made inquiries since and have ascertained that no electric lights went out. I sent for electric light men and gas men. Some gas jets went out in one or two places, caused by the shock or something, but I could not ascertain from these men that a single electric light went out. One of the electric light men whom I called up is a friend of mine, and he sent for the man who has direct charge of the lights, who came to my office. This man said he had not heard of any such thing. I said: 'I want to know with certainty.' The man then made an exploration of an hour or two and returned, saying that with the exception of one electric light near the harbor and one at another place not very far distant, where he thought perhaps the lights might have gone out from the shock, no other electric lights went out."

General Lee also said he had not felt the

'Have you heard since the explosion of the Maine any expression by Spanish officers in relation to it, indicating their pleasure at the act?"

various persons who came in that there was a good deal of rejoicing among some of the officers. All reports I got said they were drinking champagne, quite a thing to do in honor of the event, and in different portions of the city officers were making merry. I attribute it to the fact that what they considered almost an enemy's battle-ship had been blown up, and it was

that much in their favor." He had not heard any threats of or allusions to the destruction of the Maine previous to the explosion. Senator Lodge asked if he had heard of an attempt on the Montgomery.

"I heard," responded General Lee, "that there was something of that sort one evening, but I believe upon investigation it was found that it did not amount to anything."

DONE BY AN EXPERT.

The following colloquy between Senator For-aker and General Lee brought out some further opinions of the General in regard to the destruc-

tion of the Maine: Senator Foraker-You think that no novice could have destroyed the Maine?

General Lee-Oh, no, sir. The man who did the work was an officer thoroughly acquainted with explosives of all sorts, and knew all about it. It was very well done.

Senator Foraker—A man who had expert knowledge, necessarily?

Senator Clark—And who must have had knowl-'ge of the location of the torpedo?

Jeneral Lee-Yes. I never have been certain

that the submarine explosive was placed there prior to the entrance of the Maine into the harbor. It might have been done afterward. The Maine was anchored to a buoy by some little chain. A vessel swinging around that way sometimes gets at various places all around the circle. When she would swing off that way, with the bow next to the buoy and these boats plying about the harbor all the time, anybody could go pretty well in front of her on a dark night and drop one of these submarine mines of 560 pounds. They have fingers, as it were, and as the boat goes around it would touch the finger, which makes contact and explodes the Maine got in there and not be discovered. One or two men rowing quietly in a boat could drop it off the stern of the boat on a dark night, though Sigsbee had his patrols out. A boat would not have been noticed, because boats go there always to a late hour of the night. The harbor is full of these little boats. A mine weighs about 500 pounds, and I suppose it would take two or three men—one man to row and probably three or four to handle the mine.

SPANIARDS PREFER ANNEXATION. In reply to a question from Senator Gray, General Lee said that the Spanish population

is not especially hostile toward the United States, his language being as follows:

I do not think they are now. They were. But the Spanish portion are principally the merchants, commission merchants and shop-keepers, and all this agitation is affecting very much their business. A great many of them much their business. A great many of them, while they give expression to great loyalty, are really annexationists, because they think it is the only way out of the trouble. They would much prefer annexation to the United States to a Cuban Republic, fearing that discrimination would be made against them in some way, and would rather trust to the United States than to the Cubans.

Senator Gray-How as to the Cuban part of the population? General Lee-They are generally all for Free

Senator Culiom—What is the condition of the reconcentrados out in the country?

General Lee—Just as bad as in General Weyler's day. It has been relieved a good deal by supplies sent from the United States, but that has ceased now.

The Chairman-How about the Spaniards?

The Chairman—How about the Spaniards?

General Lee—General Blanco published a proclamation rescinding General Weyler's bando, as they call it there, but it has had no practical effect, for in the first place these people have no place to which to go; the houses have been burned down; there is nothing but the bare land there, and it takes them two months before they can raise the first crop. In the next place they are afraid to go out from the lines of the town because the roving bands of Spanish guerillas, as they are called, would kill them. So they stick right in at the edges of towns just like they did, with nothing to eat except what they can get from charity; the Spanish have nothing to give. ARMISTICE OF NO USE.

Senator Lodge-What does this cessation hostilities spoken of in the last few da amount to General Lee-Nothing: practically nothing-the armistice amounts to nothing.

Senator Daniel-Do you know the conditions

General Lee-I saw General Blanco's proclawritten on, because a truce or armistice be-tween two contending forces requires the con-sent of both before it can be of any practical effect, and it will not have the consent of the in-surgents.

General Lee-This occurred just about the

General Lee-This occurred just about the time I left, and I do not know. I suppose he just relies upon that proclamation. He says the various Spanish officers in different parts of the island will see that it goes into effect.

In response to an inquiry from Senator Frye as to his reasons for saying that the insurgents would pay no attention to the armistice, Gen-

Because every attempt so far to make terms or to make peace, or to buy the insurgents or their leaders, has met with signal failure; and whatever may be said about old General Gomez, he is, in my humble opinion, fighting that war in the only way it can be done—scattering his troops out—because to concentrate would be to e. The Spanish troops would

BRIBERY MEANS DEATH

General Lee-They are living there almost from hand to mouth, the Spaniards and the citizens in the town of Havana also. I made some inquiries on that point just before I left. They have a good many barrels of flour and a good deal of rice and some potatoes, but not a greatmany, and a little lard; but everything that the town of Havana has received in the last four or five or six months has been from the United States by steamers from New-York, New-Orleans and Tampa.

Senator Mills-Can they get no subsistence from the island?

from the island?

General Lee—Nothing more than from the fleor (indicating). The way the insurgents do is this. They have little patches of sweet potatoes — everything grows there very abundantly in a short time—and Irish potatoes and fruits. They drive their pigs and cattle into the valleys and hillsides, and they use those and scatter out. That is the reason why they all scatter out. A great many are planting. The insurgents plant crops in many parts of the island. Speaking about an armistice, they have not been interfered with much since General Blanco came there. With the exception of the campaign of General Pando in the eastern part of the island, there have been very few military operations inaugurated by the Spanish. So it has been practically a sort of a truce for some time—the insurgents because they did not want to fight, and because it was against orders to fight.

HAVANA COULD BE STARVED. Senator Mills—Suppose Havana was block-aded so that no provisions could go in, would the people there have any way to get any?

General Lee-None whatever. The town would General Lee said that all but about 300,000 had asked him if a vessel could drop a mine surrender in a short while. Spaniards of the population of Cuba, which is

about 1,500,000, were Cubans. "Are all the Cubans friendly to the insurgents?" asked Senator Foraker.

"I never saw one that was not," responded General Lee. General Lee said he had spent all but about

\$5,000 of the \$50,000 appropriated for the relief of American citizens in Cuba. Senator Morgan asked if it was a matter of actual necessity to feed them, to which General Lee replied:

They were practically in the condition of all the other inhabitants of the Island. They had very little to work at. There were not many sugar plantations in operation nor tobaccopiaces, and they were suffering like everybody else. Senator Cullom asked if the Spanish Army

got any of the supplies sent by the United "No, sir," said General Lee. "Occasionally States.

they might have got a little here and there." SPANISH SOLDIERS. Senator Frye asked various questions in re-

gard to the physical condition of the Spanish goldiers and the method of providing for them, of which the following are specimens, with their Sonator Frye-What is the condition of the Spanish soldiers there in the island?

General Lee-Very bad. Senator Frye-As to clothing and subsistence,

how are they?

General Lee-They are badly clothed and very

Wedding Silver.

Black, Starr & Frost

S. W. cor. 5th Ave. & 39th St.

badly fed; not well organized; not drilled. No-body ever saw Spanish soldiers drill.

Senator Frye-If Spain has really appropriated \$600,000 for the sustenance of the reconcentrades, as it is stated, do you believe that that will be given to those people, and that

their own soldiers will be left to starve? General Lee-Oh, no. There will be very lit-tle of it paid to anybody. Senator Foraker-What will become of it?

General Lee—They will divide it up here and there a piece taken off here and a piece taken off there and a piece taken off there. I do not believe they have appropriated anything of the kind. I see those things on paper always.

Senator Frye-You would have no confidence in it, and would not advise us to have any con-fidence in it?

General Lee-Not a particle

better get out. "She told me coming back," said General Lee, "that the Red Cross policy was to go behind the guns and not in front of

Senator Frye-What, in your judgment, is the possibility of Spain conquering the insurgents and restoring peace to the island?

General Lee-I do not think there is the slight-est possibility of their doing it at all in any way. Senator Cullom-Provided they do not starve them all to death?

General Lee-The same condition of things existed when Mr. Cleveland asked me to go down there. I gave him a report three weeks after I got there, in which I rold him there was no chance, in my opinion, of the Spaniards ever chance, in my opinion, of the Spaniards ever suppressing that insurrection, nor was there any chance of the insurrectionists expelling the Spanish soldiers from the Island. That report is in the State Department somewhere to-day, and if I had to write it over I would not dot an "!" or cross a "it" although I have been there nearly two years since then

possibly 55,000 or 56,000, but not drilled, not

tel, General Lee said an American army of occupation could go into the island with safety

said Senator Daniel To which General Lee re-

the Spanish troops had not been paid for about

BRIBERY MEANS DEATH.

Senator Clark—You think the insurgents would not accept any such terms?

General Lee—No, sir. I do not think it would be safe for any Spanish officer to go out under a flag of truce. They could not buy the insurgents Every time they went out to buy them they (the insurgents) killed them.

Senator Mills—How much provisions have they in store for the army? How long can they maintain their forces there without bringing in more provinions?

General Lee—I went with the British Consultance of the Secretary to the General I toid Dr. Congosto, the Secretary to the General I toid Dr. Congosto the Secretary to the General I toid Dr. Congosto the Secretary to the General I toid Dr. Congosto the Secretary to the General I toid Dr. Congosto the Secretary to the General I toid Dr. Congosto the Secretary to the General I toid Dr. Congosto the Secretary to the General I toid Dr. Congosto the Secretary to the General I toid Dr. Congosto the Secretary to the General I toid Dr. Congosto the Secretary to the General I toid Dr. Congosto the Secretary to the General I toid Dr. Congosto the Secretary to the General I toid Dr. Congosto the Secretary to the General I toid Dr. Congosto that I had received Instructions to leave the Island and go to the United States, and I called to pay my would go and like to see General Is aw Dr. Congosto the United States, and I called to pay my would like to see General Is aw Dr. Congosto the United States, and I called to pay my to the United States, and I called to pay my would go and like to see General Is aw Dr. Congosto the Secretary to

Senator Daniel-Was there any demonstra-tion of ill-will toward you as you left? General Lee-When we were coming out on the steamer on Saturday evening there was some hallooing, cat-calling and whistling, and some Spanish expressions, "Mean cowards, run-ning away," and so on. I think that was con-fined to the lower order of men, however.

CAPTAIN SIGSBEE'S TESTIMONY.

the time of the disaster, was examined on March destroyed by a mine, but no larger one than could be planted near the vessel at any time in pose. He thought twelve men, having mutual confidence and preserving secrecy, could have planted it, and that it could have been done while the ordinary discipline and watchfulness were observed on the ship. A ship moored at a should reach that point the mine would be exploded. He thought it could have been planted from a scow between decks. There were, he said, a lot of idle army officers in Havana, and, while he would not charge them with anything, he thought it not out of place to speak of the possibilities of the case. He had shown a sketch involving these theories to Captain Sampson, who had also commanded a torpedo station, and like the one he had described instantly, and that Captain Sampson and other officers had replied that it could, and that twelve men could do it. "That," said Captain Sigsbee, "is the real

reason I asked to have the Montgomery taken away. If they were going to do anything to blow us up I wanted to have it done with a smaller vessel. They had no vigilance whatever, and no guard over us or our vessels. Their vigilance was great where their own vessels were concerned. Their boats were coming and going all the time, and they generally refused to answer when we hailed them. When they did reply it was generally in an impudent manner." In reply to a question, Captain Sigsbee said he thought it possible that the explosion could have occurred "without the knowledge of the

JUST THE PLACE FOR A MINE It was a curious fact that the officers of the

deck said the vessel had never awang before in the particular direction in which it swung on the night of the explosion. Continuing, he said:

The Maine is lying now in about the position she would have taken to play on the Spanish batteries. Now, if a mine had been planted there I assume it would have been planted in just that place. If only one had been planted it would have been just there.

In reply to a question as to what examination

them. They did very little work on the wreck; it was absurd as compared with our work.

Asked why he had advised that no war vesels be sent to Havana after the explosion, Cap-

tain Sigsbee replied:

In the first piace, there was a great deal of excitement, and I wanted to work along without men-of-war and to allay the excitement in the city; and, in the next place, if there were any more mines I did not want any more war vessels blown up. Up to that time I had strongly recommended that the Indiana be sent there just to show them that the Maine was not the only vessel in the Navy, nor the most powerful. After that time I had no more confidence in the people. Treachery had been shown us, and there was no special care for us; they had not attempted to protect us as we did the Vizcaya in New-York.

A TORPEDO EXPERT'S TESTIMONY.

at the torpedo station at Newport, R. I., who as before the committee on March 30, was asked by Senator Morgan to state briefly the danger from the Spanish flotilla of torpedo-

poats and torpedo destroyers. They are frail raft, because everything is sacrificed to speed

craft, because everything is sacrificed to speed, and weights are kept down for that reason, and very thin plates used in their construction, very slight frames, and they are easily deranged. I may say that they are boats of possibilities rather than of probabilities.

Under certain conditions they are no doubt very formidable. Their chief value, in my opinion, is in preventing blockades, if in ports that are attempted to be blockaded. They choose their own time of attack, and of course the most favorable time. They are previously groomed up for the occasion, everything in readiness, and they slip out to a vessel outside and try to get in their work. At sea with a squadron they are so liable to accident and so often deranged that the chances of being effective, in my opinion.

out at night, get in their work, and return under cover of darkness, and, vice versa, our own could do the same work. We happen to have no destroyers, and our torpedo-boats have found it rather rough work crossing the Gulf stream be-tween those ports.

that the destruction of the Maine was due

METHOD OF ATTACKING HAVANA

In response to a question from Senator Mills s to the method of protecting our fleet in case wanted to blockade Havans Commander

oach near enough the port to bombard arrse the ships would be subject to bom-t. The most efficacious and at the same

cas coming, to dispose of the flotilla before reached Havana, to which Commander Brad-

ord replied:
It would be an important advantage. Much lepends upon the proposed campaign—what we are going to do; whether it is to be strictly a aval war; whether we are to confine ourselves o marine operations, or whether we are to land roops on the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico, and what the purpose of the Government is. That ought to be decided first, in my opinion, not then we would decide what to do.

I would not advocate it. Warfare cannot be urited on now as it used to be, where a float under the fort and town and take presents. The lesson of the Maine proves that

ADMIRAL IRWIN A WITNESS.

Admiral John Irwin, a torpedo expert, appilot hundreds of times. He was there a great deal while he was employed in laying the West India cable system, and was there much of the time during the rebellion from 1868 to 1871. At that time the Spaniards were bitterly hostile that war Americans were fired on by Spaniards in a café, a number of persons being killed and vounded. He believed the destruction of the Maine was caused by the explosion of a sub-

laid to communicate with a magazine on shore and then they had changed their minds and wished to use it for a ship, it would have been very simple operation to detach the cable from the shore magazine and convey the ends surreptitiously to the ship. Any one versed in handling and knowing the ground would have no difficulty, or the cable might have been tapped from any ship and the splice made. It could have been made in the space of half an hour under cover of darkness without any one having any knowledge of it except the parties

He said that torpedo mines were planted at exactly known places, and there would have been no difficulty at all for people on shore to know the exact location of the ship and that know the exact location of the snip and that she was over a mine. He was not surprised that there were no dead fish the next day.

"A boy can explode a little dynamite on the surface of the water and stir up quite a number of dead fish if there are any fish there," he said. "and again, during my work in Mobile Hay, which is a fine fish-producing water, in three or four weeks' work I never saw one dead fish." He went on then to relate several experiences confirming this opinion.

READY TO SERVE HIS COUNTRY IN ANY CAPACITY.

C. Oliver Iselin has offered his services to the Government, Mr. and Mrs. Iselin arrived home from Europe on the White Star liner Majestic "Yes," said Mr. Iselin, "I offered my services to the Government through Ambassador Hay when

I was in England. I shall be glad to do any kind service for my country, no matter what."
"Have you made an offer of any yacht to the Gov-"No." Mr. Iselin replied, "I have none

enough. I don't think the Defender is."

"Have you any new yachting plans?"

"No. I don't think, when the country is in so grave an emergency as it is, that it is proper to consider such a thing.

Mr. and Mrs. Iselin went to their home at New-Rochelle.

Rochelle.

Captain W. H. Wheeler, attached to the Regular Army from 1874 to a few years ago, and now retired, arrived here on the Majestic yesterday to place his services at the disposal of the Government. Captain Wheeler has lived in Paris for four years, whence he cabled his offer to the Government. He will go to Washington. LONDON WAR CORRESPONDENT HERE. Among the passengers who arrived yesterday on the White Star Line steamer Majestic, from Liver-

the White Star Line steamer Majestic, from Liverpool and Queenstown, was Captain R. J. MacHugh,
who comes over to represent "The London Daily
Telegraph" in the event of the breaking out of
hostilities. Mr. MacHugh has letters of introduction to the Secretary of War and other officials at
Washington, where he went immediately. He expected to accompany the American troops or naval
vessels. the Spanish Board made of the accident, Captain Sigsbee said:

They had not done anything for a week; had not been down at all. Our people laughed at comes a reality, and then he will so to the front.

GORHAM Silverware

SPRING WEDDING SEASON now ready BROADWAY and NINETEENTH ST. TWENTY-THREE MAIDEN LANE

POWERS POSSIBLE - BELIEF

about to come, but the preparations for removal have been completed in view of the obvious con-

dition of affairs.

ton, M. Cambon. They fill a dozen or more about an understanding as to what steps would be taken in the event of the retirement of the

tinued to accept the social courtesies extended to him, these being numerous and including the in his judgment unwarranted, denunciation of

known that the Spanish Government will

is known that the Spanish Government will not, either by the withdrawal of the Minister or by other conspicuous step, place itself in a position of having invited a recourse to war. On the contrary, the entire policy at Madrid, it is stated, is to remain passive until the United States not only makes the tender of war, but executes it by unmistakable overt acts.

It has further been developed as the unmistakable policy of Spain, that she will resist armed intervention in Cuba as an attack upodher sovereignty. Although unofficial suggestions have appeared in the inspired press of Madrid that a protest might be made against that feature of the President's messac suggesting armed intervention, no such protest has been made, nor, it is said, is there any present probability that it will be made. The only certain feature in this regard is that the Spanish Cabinet has resolved to yield to no pressure, no matter how great, toward American interven-tion in Cuba, but to accept such act of inter-

matter how great, toward American intervention in Cuba, but to accept such act of intervention as meaning war.

Cardinal Rampolla's dispatch from the Vatican to the Foreign Office at Madrid, stating that a peace settlement was still likely, is known here to have been made on advices sent from Washington two days ago, which in no way reflect to-day's condition of affairs. The advices were sent by Archbishop Ireland, who, at the time of the dispatch, believed the tendencies were more pacific. This, however, was before either branch of Congress had acted. What further views the Archbishop has communicated, if any, to meet the changed condition of affairs, is not known, but the facts of his advices to the Vatican two days ago are known with circumstantial detail.

There is in diplomatic circles renewed talk of European intervention on more definite lines than heretofore. It has not yet advanced to the point, however, of a joint policy, or the exchange of notes either among the Ambassadors and Ministers at Washington, or the capitals of Europe, and if anything is done it will probably be only a further appeal from the Spanish Government, similar to the appeal which induced the recent action of the Powers. The nature of this appeal, it is pointed out, would be to show that Spain's recent concession, granting an armistice, was made on the joint request of the Powers, and to take the ground that, as the Powers had brought about this action by Spain, they should lend their united influence in seeing that time was allowed to try the efficacy of this concession. It is the belief among diplomats here that Spain will make this appeal, and that it will meet with favorable response, but the word has not come that the step has been taken.

The sentiment at the embassies and legation:

sponse, but the word has been taken.

The sentiment at the embassies and legation; to-day was that the action in Congress made war inevitable, and that little or no further chance remained to escape from it.

VICE-CONSUL-GENERAL SPRINGER HERE HE TALKS BRIEFLY OF CUBA'S WOES AND THE OUTLOOK FOR INTERVENTION. Joseph A. Springer, for thirty years the Vice-Con-

sul-General of the United States at Havana, reached the city yesterday morning from Wash-ington, whither he accompanied Consul-General Lee after the latter's recall. Mr. Springer at once went to his home, No. 148 West Sixty-fourthst., where he was seen yesterday afternoon by a Tribune reporter.

"There is little that I can say that will interest the public," Mr. Springer said. "Everybody is well acquainted now with what General Lee has reported to the Government, and what I might add would not prove of interest. The almost innuman treatment accorded to the suffering Cubans by the Spanish officials has already been set forth more eloquently and in more detail than I could tell it, but I am sure that it has not been overstated. Misery is apparent on every hand, in Havana as well as in the provinces, and something should be done to alleviate the lot of the unfortu nate reconcentrados. It is true that the relief distributed by Miss Clara Barton and her noble assistants of the Red Cross has done much to save a part of the Cubans from starvation, but there are thousands of others who barely exist on the crusts and remnants from the tables of their more fortu-nate fellow-countrymen, who, because of the busi-ness depression incident to the rebellion, are unable nate fellow-countrymen, who, because of the value ness depression incident to the rebellion, are unable to afford them more relief. This condition of affairs can only be changed by the restoration of peace. The President has already pointed the way to accomplish that end, and if the Senate will do as well as the House has already done Cuba will again become the prosperous Island that it was before the insurrection began."

In speaking of the alleged Republic of Cuba and the ability of its officials to administer the affairs of the island Mr. Springer said: "I am not prepared to say anything about the republic. I will say, however, that the Cubans, as a rule, are a law-abiding people, and that any stable government can rule. In their warfare they have been humane and not wantonly destructive of property. General Gomez has good control over his men, and one seldom hears of excesses committed by them, except where it is necessary to prevent supplies from falling into the hands of the enemy. When we intervene I think it will be necessary for us to conquer, not only the Spaniards, but also the Cubans, restore peace, and give the Cubans a chance to show whether or not they are able to realintain a stable government of their own. The

SENOR POLO READY TO GO.

HE WILL TURN OVER LEGATION ARCHIVES TO THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR.

autonomists, who are quite generous, will have to be considered in establishing this government.

Mr. Springer asserted that he felt sure that the Maine explosion was caused from the outside, and he declared that the place where the unfortunate battle-ship was moored was known by the Spanish authorities to be over a sunken mine.

THE PROPOSED TAX ON COFFEE

HOSTILITY REVIVED BETWEEN THE AL BUCKLES AND THE SUGAR TRUST. The Arbuckle and Sugar Trust interests are

again showing signs of active hostility toward each

other, the inciting cause at this time being the those commodities, the probable rates believed a pound on coffee and 10 cents on tea. ness, are reported to be well supplied with coffee tered the coffee field, is generally supposed not to have much of that staple on hand. The proposition to tax coffee already in this country has incensed the Arbuckle side, while the trust is said to favor it. Indeed it is instinuated by enemies of the Sugar Trust that the projected legislation as to internal stocks of coffee was suggested by the sugar men to the Ways and Means Committee. The Arbuckle brokers say that the total quantity of coffee on hand is only about one hundred and thirty million pounds, all of which has been accumulated in the ordinary course of business, absolutely without any intention of benefiting by the imposition of a tax upon future importation, and that a stamp tax on present stocks would be taking from a man property which he has accumulated and would be unconstitutional.

The Sugar Trust's spekesmen retort that if coffee is to be taxed the burden must fall upon all alike; that if the Government wants money, it wants it now, and not six or eight months hence, when the supply on hand is exhausted, as, unless the stock on hand were taxed equally with that to be brought in, not a pound would be imported until the present supply should be exhausted; that that supply is not one hundred and thirty million pounds, but more than twice that quantity; that the Sugar Trust has all the coffee for its present needs, and that it would be easy to collect a stamp tax if the large dealers were required to make declaration under onth of their respective stocks, as Si per cent of the coffee manufactured in this country is sold in packages.

TO RAISE ADDITIONAL REVENUE SOME OF THE TAXES MR. DINGLEY WILL PRO

Dingley of the Committee on Ways and Means until the additional revenues shall begin to come in. ters under consideration, and has frequently coneral of his colleagues of the Ways and Means Comity of it, has been held on the subject, but there is

enue must be internal taxation, but it may be reeral imported commodities which are now adseveral dutiable articles. Chief among the former are tea and coffee. The yearly consumption of tea creasing, and the importations of coffee amount to cents a pound on tea, which would be equivalent to

would amount to \$18,000,000 a year, making a tota of \$25,000,000. would amount to \$15,000,000 a year, making a total of \$25,000,000.

If these duties should be imposed an internal tax on unsold stocks of coffee and tea would have to be imposed. According to the best information obtainable there is a six months' supply of both tea and coffee-50,000,000 pounds of the former and 200,-000,000 pounds of the latter—on hand, which could be reached by the tax collector. At ten cents a pound the tax on the unsold stock of tea in the hands of importers and wholesale dealers would amount to \$5,000,000, and a tax of three cents a pound on coffee would yield \$9,000,000, making a total of \$14,000,000, which could be speedily collected and turned into the Treasury.

In the opinion of experienced Treasury officials the collection of this tax would be practicable and not unduly expensive. Much of the tea and coffee is held by a comparatively small number of individuals and concerns. For example, it is said that a single concern now holds 189,000,000 pounds of coffee, and another half as great a quantity. Of course, if a tax should be imposed there would have to be a penalty to prevent removal or sale without payment of it.

a year, and a duty of three cents a pound on coffee

GENERAL LEE DECLINES A RECEPTION. WANTS NO FUSS MADE ABOUT WHAT ANT

AMERICAN CITIZEN WOULD HAVE DONE. HE SAYS.

Washington, April 14.—General Fitzhugh Lee de-clined to-day the honor of a reception offered to him by the Union Veteran Legion and the Con-federate Veteran Association of the District of rederate Veteran Association of the District of Columbia. When the committee waited upon him to-day to receive his final decision he started his speech of declination in a characteristic manner. "Look here, boys." he said in a matter-of-fact tone. "I haven't done a thing that either one of you or any American citizen would not have done, and I don't see which the said in the latest and the said in t and I don't see why there should be about it. Now, I don't want you to think I am ungrateful, for I am not; but I have studied over the matter, and I feel satisfied that it would be better not to have the reception. I don't want for an instant for anybody to think that I wish to put myself forward, and I must decline your most kind offer."

General Legis most intimate friends said.

offer."
One of General Lee's most intimate friends said that one reason for his not wanting the reception was that he recognized the fact that he occupied an official place, and felt a hesitancy in accepting any formal demonstration on this account. STUDENTS FORM NAVAL RESERVE. Ann Arbor, Mich., April 14.-At a meeting held

for that purpose last night, a naval reserve battal-ion of 100 men was formed at the University of Michigan. It is expected that within a week the membership will be increased to 200. Enropean Advertisements.

EUROPEANS AND TRAVELLERS WILL COM the London office of The Tribune, 149 Ficet Street, a convenient place to leave their advertisements and subscriptions fe

Hotel de Lille et d'Albion 223, Rue St. Honore, Paris,
Between the Tuileries Gardens, Piace Vendome and New Opera. Advantageous afterangements for families. Beautiful Hall,
Large Drawing Rooms, Electric Light, &c.
Telegrams, "Lillalbion." Paris,
HENRY ABADIE. ADELPHI,



Comforts for Voyagers. MIDLAND GRAND